

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SAM-01 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 L-03

XMB-02 PRS-01 AF-06 ORM-02 DHA-02 AGR-05 HUD-01 /093 W
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R 281454Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4748

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PO

SUBJ: US-PORTUGUESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION

REFS: (A) LISBON 6220 (NOTAL) DTG 221119Z OCT 75;

(B) EC BRUSSELS 9573 (NOTAL) DTG 240906Z OCT 75

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANCE SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN AND I MET OCTOBER 27
WITH VASCO VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA TO DISCUSS FOLLOW THROUGH ON AID
PROGRAM AND HOW WE WOULD WORK WITH HIS COMMISSION (REFTEL A).

2. VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA SAID HE AHD ESTABLISHED THREE PRIORITIES
FOR FOREIGN AID.

(A) JOSB CREATION. THIS WOULD INCLUDE HOUSING, PUBLIC
WORKS AND SOME FORMS OF AID TO THE ANGOLAN REFUGEES.

(B) IMPROVING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. THE PRINCIPAL
EFFORT IN THIS AREA WOULD BE TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON AGRICUL-
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TURAL IMPORTS.

(C) INFRA-STRUCTURE. SOME PROJECTS WOULD BE CONSIDERED IN AREAS SUCH AS SEWAGE, SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS.

2. VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA CONFIRMED THAT EC HAD BEEN RELUCTANT TO GET INVOLVED IN HOUSING AREA (REFTEL B).. I NOTED THAT WITH A POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL \$20 MILLION HOUSING INVESTMENT GUARANTY IN FY 1976 THE USG HOUSING PROGRAM WOULD AMOUNT TO OVER 53 MILLION DOLLARS. IN ADDITION THE GERMANS HAD INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE HOUSING AREA. IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT OUR HOUSING MONEY STILL HAD NOT BEEN SPENT I SUGGESTED VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA EXAMINE GOP'S CAPACITY TO ABSORB MORE FUNDS IN THIS AREA. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE THAT EC COULD BE MORE USEFUL IN OTHER AREAS.

3. VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA SAID HE WAS INCLINED TO BREAK HIS TASK FORCE DOWN INTO SUB-GROUPS DEALING WITH FINANCE, DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND TRADE. I SAID I WAS SURE WE WOULD FIND THIS APPROACH SATISFACTORY.

4. VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA HAS GIVEN HIS TASK FORCE UNTIL NOVEMBER 5 TO COME UP WITH A LIST OF PROJECTS AND POSSIBLE PRIORITIES. WE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE BEST FOR US TO MEET WITH HIM IN A SEMI-FORMAL SESSION AFTER THAT EXERCISE HAD BEEN COMPLETED. TWO POSSIBILITIES PRESENT THEMSELVES: VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA, PATTERSON AND I COULD GO TO WASHINGTON FOR MEETINGS THERE OR WE COULD SEND A SMALL GROUP FROM WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS GENERAL PRIORITIES. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY TECHNICIANS IN EACH OF THE THREE AREAS DESIGNATED BY VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA.

5. VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA, LOWENSTEIN AND I ALL FELT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO SEND OUT A SMALL GROUP FROM WASHINGTON. IF POSSIBLE SUGGEST BOB NOOTER HEAD THE GROUP. FOR COSMETIC PURPOSES WE COULD CALL THE GROUP A DELEGATION. SUGGEST I BE DESIGNATED CHAIRMAN AND THAT PATTERSON BE INCLUDED AS WELL. THIS WOULD FULFILL THE MODALITIES OF THE MIXED COMMISSION SUGGESTED BY MELO ANTUNES.
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